

REMARKS

The Office action mailed November 15, 2005, set forth an election requirement, alleging that the claims were directed to six distinct inventions. The Office Action alleged that claims 1-7 were directed to a first invention, claims 8-14 were directed to a second invention, claims 15-18 were directed to a third invention, claims 19-21 were directed to a fourth invention, claims 22-27 were directed to a fifth invention, and claims 28-35 were drawn to a sixth invention. Applicants hereby elect claims 28-35, with traverse. In order to advance the prosecution of this matter, Applicants elected to cancel claims 1-7 and 15-27.

Applicants have, however, not yet canceled claims 8-14, as Applicants believe that these claims should be properly examined with claims 28-35. In this regard, MPEP § 803 explicitly states that, if search and examination of two or more inventions can be made without "serious burden," the Examiner must examine each on the merits even if the claims are directed to distinct or independent inventions. In this case, Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of claims 8-14 will encompass the same class and subclass as the search and examination of elected claims 28-35. Accordingly, the examination burden will not be significantly increased to the Patent Office in considering and examining all claims 8-14 along with the elected group of claims 28-35.

All claims 8-14 and 28-35 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass those claims to issuance. If the Examiner believes a teleconference will expedite the examination of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 770-933-9500.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement. If, however, any fee is deemed to be payable, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted ,

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By:


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